

COUNTRY Poland

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC KBW Guard Battalion in Krakow

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EVALUATION 25X1X

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 22 January 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to October 1951, the old barracks installation located on the north side of ul. Montelupich in the northern sector of Krakow (Q 51/Z 24) was occupied by the so-called Krakow City Guard Battalion of the KBW (Internal Security). During the war, the installation served as German police barracks. It had two pedestals on both sides of the entrance on ul. Montelupich on which were mounted the Polish eagle and the Polish banner; there were also two masts with a Polish and a Soviet banner located a short distance from the pedestals. The installation included a small guardhouse and a storehouse, over 100 meters long, with horse stables, cow barns and pig sties east of the entrance; the military court and two billets, about 100 meters long, with wings west of the entrance; and two other billets, 70 meters long and housing the motor pool personnel, a kitchen, one garage, about 80 meters long, another garage, about 150 meters long, a motor-vehicle repair shop, a service station, a forage storehouse, and officers' billets in the northern sector of the installation.

2. Prior to 1 September 1951, the battalion was commanded by Captain Rischke (fmu), who was reassigned to the Warszawa post and replaced by a lieutenant colonel, with Senior Lieutenant Truba (fmu), serving as adjutant. The unit totaled about 800 men organized into four companies of about 150 men each and a motor pool of about 200 men. The companies consisted of four platoons of four squads, each of which included a squad leader, an assistant squad leader, three light machine gunners, and five riflemen.

3. The soldiers wore khaki uniforms with dark-blue patches, gray shirts with black neckties and dark-blue cap bands. On special occasions, they wore dress uniforms differing from the field uniforms only with regard to their better quality. The men carry rifles, Soviet-made submachine guns with drum magazines, and Czech-made light machine guns and pistols. Marching out for combat training, the soldiers usually carry musettes bags, canteens, packs, gas masks, and short spades. The soldiers were equipped with at least 150 trucks and sedans and 8 armored scout cars.

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4. The old barracks installation on the south side of ul. Montelupich, which was partially destroyed during the war, included 5 officers' billets for bachelor and married officers, 4 of which were constructed in 1950, a clothing storehouse with a tailor's shop, about 40 meters long, and an ordnance and equipment depot in the western section; and an agricultural university in the eastern section.

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Comment. The KEW battalion occupying the barracks installation on Montelupich Strasse was mentioned in a previous report.

Previous reports stated that a military court and the central prison were also located in the installation.

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